

L.T.-OLDS. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1962

(L.T. on South Sea Islands, Antarctica, Asia,
Europe trip. Bc. given by Richard C. Hottelet,
of CBS.)

GOOD EVENING:

A spokesman for U.N. Secretary General U-Thant said in New York tonight that Katanga President Moise Tshombe is refusing to sign a cease-fire order to his troops who are battling U.N. forces inside Elisabethville.

Earlier, a U.N. spokesman had said Tshombe had ordered his soldiers verbally to stop shooting but that, apparently, they were not obeying his command. The implication now is that Tshombe is refusing to honor his word by following through with a signed cease-fire order. U.N. troops captured the Katanga gendarmerie headquarters in Elisabethville today after counter-attacking roadblocks from which the gendarmes were laying down a barrage of mortar and automatic weapons fire. There are reports tonight that efforts to remove the roadblocks

are continuing - no crossfire of propaganda. U.N. reportedly taken over the radio station in Elisabethville.

BERLIN

West Berlin city officials said today that border patrols will be strengthened in an effort to prevent further bomb attacks on the Communist-built wall. They said the step was being taken in the public safety in view of the fourteenth attack on the wall which occurred today.

An early morning explosion of a home-made bomb blew a hole in the wall and caused more property damage than any of the attacks so far. It shattered at least fifteen hundred windows in apartment houses and retail stores on the West Berlin side of the wall, leaving many families in icy cold rooms. One city official said it was a miracle that no one was injured.

The retiring American commandant in Berlin -- General Albert Watson -- told a farewell news conference today that bomb attacks on the wall are "futile and help nobody." He also said it might be a good idea to send unarmed Allied soldiers across the wall to aid any refugees who are wounded

while trying to flee to the West. Watson said such a solution had a lot of merit, but he admitted no one can tell what "a lot of trigger-happy, Communist police might do."

LABOR

Labor Secretary W. Willard Wirtz said today that shippers and dockworkers have agreed to submit a key issue to a study group, and try to write a temporary contract that will reopen ports from Maine to Texas.

Wirtz, determined to get the dockworkers back on the job, said the major issues now are wages and fringe benefits, and the length of the temporary contract.

Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas today granted the rail Brotherhoods a seven day stay from a lower court ruling, which would allow the railroads to make anti-feather-bedding changes in work rules. The lower court decision was to have become effective January Second. Douglas moved back the date to January ninth, allowing the five Rail Unions more time to file an appeal.

INTRO. TO L.T.

Time now to go to Australia, where Lowell Thomas has another report for us. Lowell, what's the story tonight?

AUSTRALIA

Doug, I wonder if you've heard about the young Australian who has gone native?

When I was out here working with an Australian film crew, on one of our "High Adventure" series in Nineteen Fifty-nine, a twenty-eight year old young man said goodbye to his family in Sydney and went north, to the Sea of Arafura. There, he took off his clothes, got into an aborigine dug-out canoe and made his way to Thursday Island and then on to the coast of New Guinea. In the dug-out canoe he even crossed one stretch of open sea for a hundred and twenty miles. But the Dutch authorities in New Guinea wouldn't let him stay. They hustled him back to Sydney by air.

Undaunted, young Mike Fomenka headed north once more, on foot, a journey of a couple of thousand

miles. Since then, he has only been heard from about once a year. Recently, two other Australians found him living in the jungle of Capricornia, naked and alone, a modern Tarzan.

He does wear a belt of vine in which he carries a knife, but says he intends to get rid of the knife when he learns how to do all his cutting with a stone, as stone-age men did, and still do, in New Guinea. His movements are described as lithe and graceful, like a panther. And, according to reports, there is nothing wrong with his mind, although he does refer to himself as "a wild man". His comments on clothes is that they are not necessary in such a climate. As for people, he says he doesn't miss them; that he has "his own thoughts for company", thoughts that, as he puts it "are very beautiful."

Since he is an only son, what do his parents have to say about all this? Their answer is that

it's his own life and he's entitled to live as he wishes.

The strange story of the young man from Sydney, who has gone native in the north Australian bush.

So long!

FOLLOW L.T.

Strange indeed, Lowell. Too bad Edgar Rice Burroughs didn't live to see his fictional hero -- Tarzan of the Apes -- come to life. But this one would be called -- "Tarzan of the Outback."

WALL

A retaining wall collapsed today at a construction site in Greenbelt, Maryland, killing five workers and injuring at least eleven others. Rescue teams are working into the night to free any other workmen who might be trapped in the cave-in, believed to have been caused by melting snow which weakened the wall.

HOUSING

The Wall Street Journal said today that prospects for residential house construction during Nineteen Sixty-Three have been hurt by the anti-discrimination order issued last month by President Kennedy. The Journal said this was indicated by interviews with more than fifty builders in various parts of the country.

The presidential order prohibits discrimination on racial or religious grounds in the sale of new houses with federally insured mortgages. Federal House Administrator Robert Weaver issued a statement in Washington today, urging the housing industry, the government, and the general public to cooperate in the removal of racial barriers that prevent non-whites from buying homes as good as they can afford.

And now, here's Dick Noel.

END

Well, Dick, almost everybody has heard of the "coloring books", like the "Executives' Coloring Book," -- the "John Birch Coloring Book", and so on. Tonight, from Pembroke, Massachusetts, comes word of a new one called "the Great Mail Robbery Coloring Book." It pokes fun at a pretty serious matter -- the still unsolved million and a half dollar mail truck robbery at Plymouth, Massachusetts, last August. Here's how the coloring instructions begin:

"This is a mail truck,
Color it Red, White and Blue.
The mail must go through.
Inside the truck is a load of goodies.
Color the goodies, mint green..."

Good night -- Lowell Thomas will be back full-time
on Monday.